

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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21

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9946

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 4946

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TZ, US, CG, PINS, CASC

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM ZAIRIAN DISSIDENT LEADER

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 3058

1. MORNING NOVEMBER 3 NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR VAN DEN BERG INVITED EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER TO HIS OFFICE. ON ARRIVING THERE POLOFF FOUND WITH VAN DEN BERG ZAIRIAN PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY (PRP) LEADER ALFRED NONDO WHO HAD LED MAY 19-JULY 26 KIDNAPPING OPERATION OF THREE AMERICAN AND ONE DUTCH STUDENTS.

2. NONDO HANDED OVER TO POLOFF LETTER ADDRESSED TO AMERICAN AMBASSADOR FROM PRP PRESIDENT LAURENT DESIRE KABILA. LETTER IS DATED SEIVEMBER 26 AND EXPRESSES KABILA'S QTE SINCERE THANKS AND SENTIMENTS OF GRATITUDE UNQTE TO AMERICANS INVOLVED IN SECURING RELEASE OF KIDNAPPED STUDENTS. LETTER DENOUNCES AMERICAN SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU GOVERNMENT IN ZAIRE AND SUGGESTS THAT QTE THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE UNITED STATES TO PLACE ITSELF AT THE SIDE OF THE POEPLS DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTIONARY FORCES LED BY PRP UNQTE AND TO QTE TRY THE PERHAPS EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIMENT OF COOPERATION WITH THE PRP UNQTE. LETTER DOES NOT MAKE ANY SPECIFIC REQUESTS, AND DOES NOT RPT NOT INCLUDE ANY THREATS OF FURTHER KIDNAPPINGS (REFTEL) OR OTHER ACTIONS IF US DOES NOT COMPLY WITH KABILA'S SUGGESTION.

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3. NONDO ALSO HAD MUCH SHORTER LETTER FROM KABILA TO NETHERLANDS

AMBASSADOR, EXPRESSING PRP DESIRE FOR QTE COMPREHENSION OF ITS CAUSE BY YOUR GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE UNQTE, AND CHARGING QTE GENERAL NONDO UNQTE WITH DISCUSSING THIS QTE CONFIDENTIALLY UNQTE WITH HIM. VAN DEN BERG TOLD POLOFF THAT NONDO ASKED FOR NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF NETHERLANDS NEWSPAPERS TO WHOM PRP COULD SEND INFORMATION, AND MADE A REQUEST FOR WALKIE-TALKIES, WHICH AMBASSADOR POINTED OUT HE COULD NOT PROVIDE EVEN IF HE WANTED TO. NONDO TOLD NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR THAT PRP WAS HAVING AN EASIER TIME WITH TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT, AND IMPLIED THAT PRP MEMBERS COULD NOW TRAVEL AND SHOP IN TANZANIA WITHOUT TANGOV INTERFERENCE. NONDO DISCUSSED CURRENT ANGOLA SITUATION IN FAIRLY INFORMED FASHION, AND WAS VEHEMENT IN DENOUNCING MOBUTU'S INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF FNLA. HE SAID HE WAS SPENDING A FEW DAYS IN DAR ES SALAAM PRIOR TO RETURNING TO ZAIRE, AND GAVE NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR A NEW POST OFFICE BOX NUMBER IN KIGOMA (P.O. BOX 69) WHERE PRP COULD BE CONTACTED. NONDO WAS NEATLY DRESSED, CARRIED GOOD QUALITY LEATHER VALISE, AND WAS CONFIDENT IN MANNER.

4. POLOFF ACCEPTED LETTER FROM NONDO WITHOUT COMMENT. WE HAVE SUBSEQUENTLY EXCHANGED COPIES OF LETTERS WITH VAN DEN BERG, TRANSLATIONS OF WHICH WILL BE SENT ADDRESSEES UNDER COVER OF AIRGRAM. WE HAVE ALSO AGREED WITH VAN DEN BERG THAT WE WILL BOTH INFORM FONOFF EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS AFFAIRS DIRECTOR MUGANDA OF NONDO VISIT.
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